Gambling Payoff to Judge Told

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — (UP) —A former Chattanooga gambler testified by recording Friday that his wife paid a Criminal Court judge from $500 to $600 a week as gambling "protection" money.

The testimony was given to the state House of Representatives in a recording of an interview of Leonard Lane with Lavern Duffy, an investigator for the U.S. Senate rackets committee.

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LANE SAID he helped his wife run a numbers business in Chattanooga about 10 years ago for several years. She made weekly trips to the home of Judge Raulston Schoolfield to make payments.

"She paid him from $500 to $600 a week and sometimes as much as $800," Lane said.

Lane told of $2,500 raised by a Chattanooga gambler to kill a bill in the 1949 legislature. He said Schoolfield went to Nashville, the capital, with the money and the bill was not passed.

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"IT TAKES money to fix people," Lane quoted Schoolfield. Lane said he told Schoolfield, "that's the quickest fix I've ever seen."

Deleted from the recordings were portions which state investigators said referred to Schoolfield's personal life.

The house is considering taking impeachment proceedings against Schoolfield, 53, a Chattanooga Criminal Court judge.